

Frequently Asked Questions

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1) Can I be disciplined for contacting an IG?

No! Contact with an IG is a “protected communication.” A supervisor or employee who reprimands against an employee for contacting an IG faces possible punishment for violation of the statutory prohibition against reprisal for Whistleblowing.

2) Can I see the IG during normal duty hours?

There are no preconditions for coming to the Inspector General for Assistance, however, during normal duty hours, military and Department of Defense (DoD) personnel must inform the chain of command that they are leaving their place of duty. They cannot just walk off the job and fail to inform their supervisors where they are going. After duty hours, they may go to the Inspector General without notifying their supervisors. Anyone, regardless of status, may make a complaint, allegation, or request for information or assistance to any Army IG concerning matters of Army interest.

3) What is a “third party complaint?”

Third-party complainants are individuals who provide a complaint on behalf of a soldier or civilian employee.

The Privacy Act prohibits the release of Privacy Act protected information to the third parties without the consent of the individual to whom the information pertains unless a Privacy Act exception applies that permits disclosure.

IG responses to third parties are direct in nature and simply acknowledge receipt of the complaint.

4) What types of complaints are appropriate for the IG?

- Threats to homeland security
- Health and safety issues
- Trafficking in persons
- Whistleblower reprisal - military, civilian, contractor employees, non-appropriated fund employees
- Improper military mental health evaluations
- Leaks of classified information
- Bribery and acceptance of gratuities
- Conflicts of interest
- Contract and procurement fraud
- Health care fraud
- Travel or purchase card fraud





- Cost/labor mischarging
- Counterfeit or substandard parts
- Computer crimes

Any Fraud, Waste, and Abuse (FWA), violations of law, Army instructions, or policy should be reported through the appropriate grievance channels. The subject of your complaint must be an Army program or person.

The fact that you may disagree with your supervisor(s) over management styles or have what you believe is a "personality conflict," does not constitute an injustice or mismanagement.

If you are not sure your concern is an IG matter, contact your local IG office for guidance or advice.

5) What types of complaints are NOT appropriate for the IG?

- Criminal allegations
- Issues that have other means of redress (if the appropriate redress procedures are used, IGs will advise complainants that IG involvement focuses on ensuring that the complainant received due process and the protection of rights as intended by law and regulation)
- Court-martial actions
- Non-judicial punishment
- Officer evaluation reports
- Enlisted reductions
- NCO evaluation reports
- Type of discharge received
- Pending or requested discharge
- Complaints that a commanding officer has wronged a soldier
- Financial liability investigations of property loss
- Civilian allegations of reprisals
- Claims
- Issues that are not Army related
- Department of Defense civilian employee redress through other channels
- Relief for cause
- Adverse information filed in personnel records (except for allegations of reprisal)
- Hazardous work conditions
- Equal Employment Opportunity
- Collective bargaining agreements
- Appeals of adverse actions within the purview of 5 USC 7701-7703





6) Can I talk to an IG “off the record?”

Information provided to an IG is **NEVER** “off the record!”

7) Who can file an IG complaint?

If you have a concern and are unsure if you should file a complaint, contact your local IG office for guidance at 334-271-7245 or send an email to: int-igal@ng.army.mil

Any Army military or civilian member may file an IG complaint, however, many Department of Army (DA) civilian complaints (ex: discrimination, sexual harassment, and conditions of employment) must be addressed by agencies other than the IG.

Anyone, including civilians with no Army affiliation, may file Fraud, Waste, and Abuse (FWA) disclosures. Depending on the circumstances, the IG may also accept complaints from dependents or relatives of active duty members and retirees and their dependents; however it is always best for the actual “victim” or person who witnessed the alleged wrongdoing to file the complaint.

8) What IG do I or my family speak to if I am mobilized/deployed?

Inspector General “coverage” is typically based on geographic location or unit affiliation, therefore:

- If you are at your home station, contact the Alabama National Guard Inspector General.
- If you are at the mobilization station (i.e.: Camp Shelby, Camp Atterbury, Fort Dix, etc.), contact the local installation (fort/base) Inspector General.
- If you are deployed to a theater outside the U.S., (i.e.: Iraq, Afghanistan, Texas), contact the higher headquarters or local Inspector General (usually division-level)
- If you are deployed to an area of operation inside the U.S. (i.e.: Arizona, Louisiana, Kentucky, etc.), contact the nearest installation/division or your home state’s Inspector General’s office.

When in doubt as to whether or not the Alabama National Guard Inspector General will have “jurisdiction” over your case, don’t hesitate to contact us at 334-271-7245 OR 1-866-456-2764, Pin#7245, and we will advise accordingly.

For family members of deployed soldiers:

The families of soldiers who are deployed are assigned a Family Assistance Center (FAC) Specialist, who they meet at the Family Preparation Academy prior to deployment, and that FAC Specialist should be their first point of contact when assistance is needed.



Inspector General



If the soldier or family member is associated with a unit not deployed, they can still contact the State Family Program Office. State Family Support Services personnel are available 24/7 at 1-800-231-2846.

If the issue remains unresolved and after appropriate agency failed to respond in a timely manner, then family members should contact the Alabama National Guard Inspector General or other Inspector General's office.

9) How do I contact the next higher level IG?

You may write to:

National Guard Bureau
Attn: NGB-IG
1411 Jefferson Davis Hwy.
Arlington, VA 22202-3259

DA-IG Assistance line: 1-800-752-9747

DODIG Hotline: 1-800-424-9098

10) What information will the IG need from me?

Identify to the IG what you would like the IG system to do for you.

Provide copies of any hard evidence or written documentation that you have to support your case and a list of other offices/agencies you have contacted regarding your issues when you contact the IG. This will greatly assist in the resolution of your issues.

Please attach your support documents to your completed and signed Department of Army (DA) form 1559, Inspector General Action Request (provided on our Army Assistance page), and mail, email, or fax to our office (please see contact information provided on our main page)

11) What happens if someone knowingly provides false information to an IG?

Those who knowingly and intentionally provide false statements on a Department of Army (DA) form 1559 are subject to potential punitive and administrative action. (UCMJ Article 107, 18 USC 1001)



Alabama Army National Guard office of the Inspector General

